

Announcements.

BARNUM'S AMERICAN MUSEUM.
DAY AND EVENING—OLD ADAM. Mr. G. W. Clarke and
his company. TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND CURIOSITIES—
VAN DER BEEK'S COLLECTION OF WILD ANIMALS.

WINTER GARDEN.
THIS EVENING—THE LITTLE OPERA—THE STAR OF THE
NORTH.

THEATRE D'OPERA.
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New-York Daily Tribune.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1866.

TO ADVERTISERS.

We will think our advertising customers to hand in their advertisements as early as possible. If received after 3 o'clock they cannot be classified under their proper heads.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of Anonymous Communications. What is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer—not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee for his good faith. All business letters for this office should be addressed to "The Tribune," New York. We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

THE CHARTER ELECTION.

On Tuesday next the people of New-York are to vote for a Controller, and Aldermen, Comptroller, and School Commissioners, offices which contain the very seat of the government against which an overtaxed community has for so many years protested and petitioned. Knowing this, it is a wonder that any body of our citizens are content to let the November verdict in favor of the State decide for them that they have done enough for the city, and permit, in their indifference, the election of the very men against whom the vote elected Gov. Fenton was intended as a blow. We do not expect that every candidate for Reform can be elected in districts where majorities on the side of fraud are to be reckoned easily; but it is urgently important that no district where success is at all possible should be neglected and lost.

The nomination of three men with such names in the vulgar as "The Allen, Mike Norton and Oney Geoghan," shows that the friends of public robbery hold out to us the hope of improvement, either in kind or degree, and will accommodate us with bad men in office as long as any number of their fellows can be drummed to the polls to vote their taxes into the pockets of pilferers. The three gentlemen named are doubtless among the candidates to whom Mayor Hoffman alluded in his Saturday night's speech as not fit to be chosen. For the records of such would-be Aldermen as Mr. Theodore Allen, we refer public inquiry to the *Police Gazette*. If men who have been tried in our courts for larceny, assault and battery, and bounty jumping, and have graduated from prison, are proper candidates for Aldermen, by all means let the honest voters of this great metropolis vote to have their pockets picked openly.

We are glad that, on the other hand, the candidates for Reform, supported by the Republican party, the Citizens' Association, and honest bodies of Democrats, are in many respects superior to any local ticket ever presented to the voters of New-York. Such men as Eugene Ward, Don Alonzo Cushman Martin, Thatcher, Robert C. Brown, James F. Horan, and Councilmen White and Pullman, the two latter distinguished as veteran opponents of the "Ring," represent as candidates for the Board of Aldermen a respectability, honesty and influence to which that body is at present utterly a stranger.

A statement comes to us from Mexico by way of San Francisco, to the effect that the French are in favor of Ortega's claims to the Presidency. Gen. Barzaine is said to have been supplying arms and ammunition to the opponents of Juarez, and to have promised that provided they use them against Juarez, the partisans of Ortega will not be interfered with by the French forces.

A great Reform demonstration takes place in London today. The Government, profiting, it would seem, by the lessons of the last few weeks, has given orders that the military shall be confined strictly within their barracks during the day. Evidently they feel that it would be perilous to trifle any more with the feelings of the people on the question of Parliamentary Reform. By this time they must be convinced that the people are in earnest, and determined upon having their rights.

Our Consul-General in Egypt, Mr. Hale, has given the Government the important information of the arrest of John H. Surratt, a man of whose connection with the assassination of Mr. Lincoln and escape from justice, little is known, but enough to cause interest. We recently printed a cable dispatch that Surratt was in the military service of the Pope. It is now stated that he was seen on a European steamer shortly after Mr. Lincoln's death, and then spoke freely of his part in the crime, and it is very possible that his trial will lead to new revelations. Mr. Boutwell, in the Republican caucus on Saturday, made the startling assertion that, while search was being made for Surratt, Mr. Johnson knew where he was hidden.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

Mr. Halstead, editor of *The Cincinnati Commercial*, and Mr. White, editor of *The Chicago Tribune*, feel moved to write us a letter in defense of Mr. Craig, our ignominiously dismissed agent. We are of course glad to give these distinguished journalists all honor, and their statement has been carefully considered. We regret that we did them seeming injustice. The trouble with these gentlemen is that, coming to New-York on Press business, they find themselves more concerned with the success of the Craig speculation and more anxious to build up a monopoly in Cincinnati, St. Louis and Chicago, to the detriment of growing cities like Detroit, than to attend to what would seem to us to be the real object of their mission. If Mr. Craig had paid these men to do his work they could not have done it better. The Associated Press here had to abandon its organization and to surrender a business that had cost many hundreds of thousands of dollars, and which now costs the daily New-York journals thousands of dollars per week, into the hands of a charlatan and adventurer, who was dismissed because we could not trust him, merely to accommodate certain gentlemen who pay the mere fraction of the expense. Thus the news which costs the *Chicago Tribune* about seventy dollars per week costs the New-York Tribune more than five hundred dollars for the seven journals in New-York composing the Associated Press pay as much themselves as the combined Western Press.

These gentlemen mistake entirely when they say the "New-York Associated Press" was willing to sell us all the news we wanted, coupled with restrictions that did not regard quantity. The Associated Press does not sell news, and certainly no anxiety was felt to make the sale of news a business. We had merely an organization which gave us news, and if our neighbors wanted our news they might pay one-third the cost and take as much as they pleased at that rate. We could not enter into competition with any private business, because the rules of our Association prevented.

As we have said, this Committee has been more anxious to serve Mr. Craig and destroy the Associated Press than to attend to its own business. Here is a card, for instance, which Mr. Horace White sees proper to send to a paper in Troy, New-York, a paper which he does not represent:

"NEW-YORK, Dec. 1.
"J. M. FRASER, Esq., Editor Troy Times, N. Y.
The real philosophy of this fight is whether we shall have jurisdiction of our own affairs.
"Upon this issue the leading papers of Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis, and other Western cities, representing a large capital of the New-York Associated Press, will fight to the end of the chapter, and will win, too."
"Editor of The Chicago Tribune."

This card plainly shows the "real philosophy" of Mr. White and Mr. Halstead. We can scarcely imagine anything more impertinent than for the editor of a Western paper to attempt to manage the affairs of a newspaper printed in New-York, and it would be difficult to write a statement more disgusting than this. Mr. Craig has the reputation of putting about the smallest amount of truth in any given quantity of writing of any gentleman with whom we are in correspondence, and we fear that Mr. White has not been unimpaired by his new relations. He and his comrade have decided upon their policy. We can frankly assure them that that policy does not in the least affect the existence of the Associated Press. The Western press will probably find it easier to leave our Association than to return. We are anxious, however, that the journals in the West, which these gentlemen have so unworthily represented, should know the truth. Hence we say what

we say, and trust that we shall have occasion to speak no more about it.

HIGH DEBATE IN OXFORD.

It is very droll—a party of undergraduate gentlemen in the tremendous exercise of pre-baccalaureate wisdom, discussing, as they have lately done in a debating society in Oxford, England, the question "Whether Mr. John Bright is or is not a reproach to the country that gave him birth?" We admit that the subject of the debate, for the reason that it has a present and living interest, is somewhat more sensible than most of those which usually divide college debating societies, such as, "Which was the greatest general, Julius Caesar or the Duke of Wellington?" "Which was the wisest man, Solon or Pericles?" or even the fine old stock subject, "Did the French Revolution do more good than harm?" But the English of modern times pride themselves, and perhaps justly, upon their common sense, and of all common-sense men of the United Kingdom, Mr. Bright is the foremost. About his patriotism there is no false glitter; in his advocacy of reforms which are vitally necessary there is no self-seeking; he is neither a place-hunter nor a pensioner, a flatterer upon the great nor a flatterer of the common people; he is more than a Member of Parliament—he is a representative, in the House of Commons or out of it, of the great middle class, of its energy, its prosperity, its intelligence, and its humanity; and depending as England is at this moment for its national existence upon that class, it is hard to see how his leader can in any respect be "a reproach" to the country. If Mr. Bright were a borough-mongering peer, a pluralist clergyman, a champion of high corn and low wages, of restricted suffrage and of unrestricted land titles, of education for the well-born and of ignorance for the lowly, of Irish slavery and a domineering Church Establishment, of laws for the preservation of game, of simony and of sinecures—if this great man were all that in this nineteenth century he should not be, but bigotedly conservative, femininely timid, and with "quidam non morere" for ever on his lips, he would be added in Oxford as, in that seat of learning and of letters, so many thick-headed and purblind respectabilities have been exalted into demi-gods. Reproach! A college which idolized Lord Eldon cannot be expected to entertain any overweening affection for Mr. Bright!

There are several things, it must be allowed, which this able gentleman has omitted to do, and which, if he had done them, might have rendered him illustrious. He has run away with nobody's wife—he has never transported a poor devil for shooting his rabbits—he has never sworn to a creed which he did not believe—he has never voted for waste to bolster up a decaying ministry—he has not scolded the American agents for exercising the natural right of self-preservation—he has never played high at White's nor betted at the Derby—he has never sold his birthright of free thought and free speech for a mess of pottage—he has never hung upon the apron-strings of bishops nor been dazzled by the epaulettes of generals—he has never by smooth speech and fair promise won the hearts of the people only to betray them—he has been neither idle nor luxurious, neither a contractor of debt nor a pleader of privilege. In all these qualities and respects he differs from several men who have never been considered "a reproach" to the country, but who have been written down in history its safeguards and its ornaments—men whose Latinized names are resplendent upon the rolls of Oxford—men who have been doges and senators while living, and who have been carried to snug corners of Westminster Abbey when dead. The political annals of England are full of personal bargains—but Mr. Bright is neither a Bubb Doddington nor an Eldon, and has never trafficked either his popularity or his unpopularity for a peerage. A very discreditable course indeed—if peerages were all!

An Englishman who points out the sources and the secret of English decay is entitled to the credit, and will probably meet with the fate of a discoverer. He may rescue the land from mortal evils, but he will be very specially abused for doing it. This to him, however, is a matter of small consequence. It would, probably, fill the bosom of many a square-toed Don with horror to know how little Mr. Bright thinks of what they think of him in Oxford, or how little he cares whether they think of him at all. Men who are merely scholarly, however great they may be in the cloisters, will play but an unimportant part in that great British revolution which is impending. The work and the power will be in the hands of those who have a capacity for public affairs, like Mr. John Bright.

THE DANGERS OF PETROLEUM.

The disastrous petroleum fire of Friday night last revives the question of its dangers and the way to avoid them. During the early days of the petroleum excitement, when law-makers knew no more of its properties and peculiarities than did the general public, a law was passed forbidding the storage of petroleum of less than a certain gravity, which met the point of danger much as would a law forbidding the handling of gunpowder whose grains were not of an established coarseness. The explosive quality in petroleum is benzole, which exists to a greater or less degree in all gravities of the crude oil except the lubricating oils. In some of the lighter oils of Western Pennsylvania the proportion of benzole is nearly or quite 25 per cent. The first action in the refining process is to remove this benzole, which should then be thrown away, or, at most, only used for fuel. The largest and best-known refiners never retain this ingredient in their oils, justly considering it too dangerous to be tampered with. There are unscrupulous refiners, however, who add this benzole to their refined oil to increase its bulk and their consequent profit, and it is this oil, containing a large proportion of benzole, which explodes and brings discredit upon the whole petroleum trade. Oil properly refined will extinguish a burning brand as quickly as water, and such oil only should be sold.

One simple law would regulate the question of danger from oil explosions. Let the law enact that policeman or other officers shall test all oil offered for sale, by putting a lighted match to a vessel containing it. If it extinguishes the match, it is safe; if it explodes, let the oil be seized and confiscated as dangerous. The rapacity of unscrupulous manufacturers or dealers should not be allowed to endanger the lives and property of honest men.

We now especially warn the friends of good government and city reform to be on the alert to do their duty next Tuesday. There is great danger that bad men will slip into office, through the prevalent apathy in regard to the coming election. This election is one of greater importance, in many respects, to our tax-paying community, than the State election just passed. Therefore, we urge upon every voter the importance of giving a few moments of his time at the polls on Tuesday next. By such effort only can we demonstrate our capacity for local self-government.

Mr. Albert D. Richardson of THE TRIBUNE has in press a new volume of adventure, called "Beyond the Mississippi." It will contain 500 large octavo pages, and 300 illustrations from original photographs and sketches, and from the pencils of Bierstadt, Hennessy, White, Eyring, Nast, Penn, Perkins, Ward, and other American artists of repute.

Francisco near neighbor to New-York. Then we shall have no pioneers, no far West, no wild romance of half-barbarian existence, and frontier life will be a past phase of our national civilization. We are confident that Mr. Richardson's new book will, by its faithful transcription and its multiplied pictures, admirably illustrate this fleeting phase. His "Field, Dungeon and Escape" has nearly reached a sale of 100,000 copies—a success unapproached by any other book of War experience. "Beyond the Mississippi" is issued (by subscription only) by the American Publishing Co. of Hartford, Conn. We understand that the publishers pay Mr. Richardson \$7,000 for the manuscript.

OUR MERCHANT MARINE.

The objections to any too strict supervision in detail by the General Government over our mercantile marine are simple, and such, first, because the Government cannot afford to convert our merchant vessels into a navy, man each vessel with salaried inspectors of every kind, and generally undertake the charge of it. We see it proposed that a law should be passed guaranteeing two or three men to every one hundred tons registered, thus making impossible such disasters as result from an inadequate crew. To this we have no objection. But it is also suggested that inspectors, carpenters, machinists, and practical seamen should be appointed to examine every part of the vessel, from spars and rigging to engines and boilers, and that these officers must sign a certificate before each voyage of every sea-going vessel that she is staunch and seaworthy. Then each crew is to be mustered and inspected likewise, and examined by a regularly appointed surgeon; the boats are to be overhauled, and compass, bread, water, rockets and blue-lights, sails, tools, pins, plugs, rudders, tillers, mast and sail, and painters, are to be looked for and looked into, and apparatus of the most approved kind to be insisted upon in all cases. Finally, every captain and officer must be obliged to pass an examination in navigation and seamanship, and be furnished with a certificate as to capability. With some of these suggestions we can find no fault, but conceive their application might be possible without so much complication of method. The passage of a law regulating the number of crews, and a more efficient registry of vessels may be easily practicable. But it is manifest that the whole plan proposed for inspecting each ship on its every voyage from any and every port of the United States must entail very great expense, and some unquestionable disadvantages to Government and owners.

In this country of free labor and free seamanhood, military discipline cannot be attained in our merchant marine, and the inspection of a crew that is liable to be changed, in part, at least, in every port, is, to say the least, impracticable. Government inspectors would be multiplied by the thousands, who might certify, but would scarcely inspect, to the extent contemplated. A law that would hold owners of sea-going vessels to strict accountability for loss of life and property, with the certainty of the infliction of proper penalties for violations of its provisions, would be more likely to work the much-needed reform.

Perhaps the most important position in this State is that of Controller of the City and County of New-York. If he is an honest man, having a single eye to the interests of the citizens of the metropolis, he can cause the reduction of the burdens imposed upon the taxpayers at least one-third. He can do this by seeing that the franchises of the City, its ferries, markets, wharves and piers and real estate, bring fair and remunerative returns to the City Treasury; as also that no warrants for stealing jobs shall receive his signature. That Richard Kelly, the Union-Republican candidate, is eminently qualified for the discharge of the duties of this office, is generally and warmly conceded. We trust that no Union man, tax-payer or citizen, who desires a good, economical and energetic City Government, will fail to deposit his ballot for Judge Kelly on Tuesday next.

The Republican party, as reorganized in this city, has no affiliation with any of the officials whose nests are in the City Hall. Neither of the Democratic candidates for Controller can, if elected, escape, sooner or later, the influence of his party associates now in office. Judge Kelly will not be independent of them all. He is, from the force of circumstances, not so much the Republican as the People's candidate. The office is one that needs such reform, as Judge Kelly will be in a position to thoroughly and fearlessly carry out.

THE SOUTHERN STATES.

FLORIDA.
JUDGE MARVIN RE-ELECTED SENATOR.
BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.
AGUSTA, Dec. 1.—Intelligence received at Charleston reports the reelection of Marvin as United States Senator for six years from March.

TENNESSEE.
THE DEAF AND DUMB INSTITUTE REOPENED.
BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.
NASHVILLE, Dec. 2.—After a suspension of five years, the Tennessee Institute for Deaf and Dumb, at Knoxville, will be again opened for the reception of pupils on Monday next.

VIRGINIA.
THE STATE FINANCES.
The report of the Treasurer of Virginia for the fiscal year ending 30th September, 1866, gives the following statements:

Balance in the treasury, 1st October, 1865.	\$68,982 73
Received from 1st October, 1865, to 30th September, 1866, inclusive.	99,044 54
Disbursed from 1st October, 1865, to 30th September, 1866, inclusive.	1,027,428 47
Balance on hand, 1st October, 1866.	\$335,120 80

To the credit of the commonwealth, in the following banks:

Planters' National Bank of Richmond.	\$26,345 82
Union Bank of Richmond.	91,712 29
First National Bank of Richmond.	\$4,796 60
National Exchange Bank of Richmond.	\$2,463 98
Total.	\$35,318 69

Twenty-nine foreign insurance companies doing business in the State have, under act of Feb. 3, 1866, deposited the State Treasury \$88,000 in Virginia registered and coupon bonds, and \$30,000 in notes secured by deeds on real estate.

Among the securities and outstanding counterfeited notes of the independent banks of the State are the following:

Chesapeake and Ohio Canal bank.	\$34,000
Confederate bank.	\$27,000
City of Wheeling bank.	\$24,000
Bank of Wheeling.	\$24,000
Guaranteed bank.	\$22,000

The total amount of donations and appropriations to the Monument Fund has been \$349,291 92, of which there has been disbursed \$304,438 35, leaving a balance of unexpended appropriations \$44,853 57.

ALABAMA.

JUDGE BUSTED'S CHARGE—A PROFOUND SENSATION.
REBELS TO BE INDICTED—OPINIONS ON THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.
FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.
HESTONVILLE, ALA., Nov. 24.—Judge Busted's charge to the Grand Jury impaneled in this district on Wednesday last, has created a profound impression here. The gentlemen recently in armed rebellion do not stomach it, but the "Boys in Blue," and the chosen band who never bowed the knee to Rebel, are jubilant, and have taken fresh courage. What was talked of loudly before, is now whispered in conclaves of the admirers of the "Union and the Constitution." The men for whom the United States must not be defeated by the men for whom the United States must not be punished from their crimes has been provided, and that a condition precedent in a pardon cannot be violated with impunity. I especially draw attention to what is said about the Congressional amendments, &c., the Civil Rights bill, and the inflicting of the duels that go waddling and quacking about, as if because they begged and secured forgiveness for their sins, they are licensed to add ingratitude and meanness to moral perjury.

The Judge said:

I am myself profoundly impressed by what concerns the people of these States, and cannot in the present emergency, even at the risk of encountering criticism from the dissent, refrain from speaking what I earnestly desire shall be to the citizens of Alabama "a word in season." Let it not, I pray, be ascribed to a mere political propaganda, that I say to you that the people at large to be in the prompt reestablishment of this State to be exacted, relations with the General Government.

How shall this be brought to pass? For my own part, I have no doubt that the adoption of the proposed amendments to the Federal Constitution would surely and safely reach the end of our Government as a source of contention, and would be a national triumph. Submission to the clearly expressed will of such a majority is the duty of every citizen; it is more than a duty, it is a patriotism. Very recently this majority has declared itself in favor of the peace policy of Congress for the reintegration of the States that were in rebellion. From this plan that majority will not recede. It will allow to its opponents and to the people among whom I live, if I showed my allegiance to give weight to a contrary opinion. In my judgment,